GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2397
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
FOREIGN EXCHANGE
Kalmadi Shri Suresh;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism sector has been able to earn foreign exchange to the extent of $ 10 billion in 2006 ;

(b) if so, any estimate has been made to assess the number of foreign tourist arrival during the current year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to attract more domestic and foreign tourist on the occasion of the 33rd National Games ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE(SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) : It is estimated that the foreign exchange earnings of India from tourism was US$ 6.6 billion during 2006.

(b) : If the annual growth rate in foreign tourist arrivals in 2007 remains same as in 2006, i.e. 13%, the foreign tourist arrivals in 2007 would be around 5.01 million.

(c) : To attract more tourists on the occasion of the 33rd National Games in Guwahati during 9-18 February, 2007, Government of Assam launched massive publicity campaign through the print media, hoardings, banners and posters etc,.